

A listing of the claims follows.

Claims 1-44. (Cancelled)

45. (Previously Presented) A method of adaptation in point to multipoint communication, the method including steps of:

determining, by a base station, physical and media access control parameters to be used by each of plural customer premises equipment;

packaging said physical and media access control parameters in descriptor packets having a fixed size; and

pre-announcing said physical and media access control parameters to said customer premises equipment by sending said descriptor packets from said base station to said customer premises equipment, with each descriptor packet sent as a first packet in a time division multiple access frame;

determining, by said base station, new physical and media access control parameters to be used by each of said plural customer premises equipment;

packaging said new physical and media access control parameters in new descriptor packets having said fixed size; and

pre-announcing said new physical and media access control parameters to said customer premises equipment by sending said new descriptor packets from said base station to said customer premises equipment, with each new descriptor packet sent as a new first packet in a new time division multiple access frame.

46. (Cancelled)

47. (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 45, wherein said physical and media access control parameters are in a first layer of an OSI model communication system.

48. (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 47, wherein said step of determining said new physical and media access control parameters is responsive to a higher level layer in said OSI model communication system.

49. (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 48, wherein said first layer includes a physical layer; and

said higher level layer includes at least one of: a media access layer, a network layer, a transport layer, an application layer.

50. (Previously Presented) A base station for use with point to multipoint communication, comprising:

at least one antenna;

a processor;

program and data memory; and

communication elements that send and receive information over said communication link using said antenna under control of said processor;

wherein said processor operates under control of instructions stored in said memory, said instructions including steps of:

determining physical and media access control parameters to be used by each of plural customer premises equipment;

packaging said physical and media access control parameters in descriptor packets having a fixed size;

pre-announcing said physical and media access control parameters to said customer premises equipment by sending said descriptor packets from said base station to said

customer premises equipment, with each descriptor packet sent as first packet in a time division multiple access frame;

determining new physical and media access control parameters to be used by each of said plural customer premises equipment;

packaging said new physical and media access control parameters in new descriptor packets having said fixed size; and

pre-announcing said new physical and media access control parameters to said customer premises equipment by sending said new descriptor packets from said base station to said customer premises equipment, with each new descriptor packet sent as a new first packet in a new time division multiple access frame.

51. (Cancelled)

52. (Previously Presented) A base station as in claim 50,

wherein said physical and media access control parameters are in a first layer of an OSI model communication system.

53. (Previously Presented) A base station as in claim 52,

wherein said step of determining said new physical and media access control parameters is responsive to a higher level layer in said OSI model communication system.

54. (Previously Presented) A base station as in claim 53, wherein

said first layer includes a physical layer; and

said higher level layer includes at least one of: a media access layer, a network layer, a transport layer, an application layer.

55. (Previously Presented) A memory storing information including instructions, the instructions executable by a processor to control a base station for use with point to multipoint communication, the instructions including steps of:

determining physical and media access control parameters to be used by each of plural customer premises equipment;

packaging said physical and media access control parameters in descriptor packets having a fixed size;

pre-announcing said physical and media access control parameters to said customer premises equipment by sending said descriptor packets from said base station to said customer premises equipment, with each descriptor packet sent as a first packet in a time division multiple access frame;

determining new physical and media access control parameters to be used by each of said plural customer premises equipment;

packaging said new physical and media access control parameters in new descriptor packets having said fixed size; and

pre-announcing said new physical and media access control parameters to said customer premises equipment by sending said new descriptor packets from said base station to said customer premises equipment, with each new descriptor packet sent as a new first packet in a new time division multiple access frame.

56. (Cancelled)

57. (Previously Presented) A memory as in claim 55, wherein said physical and media access control parameters are in a first layer of an OSI model communication system.

58. (Previously Presented) A memory as in claim 57, wherein said step of determining said new physical and media access control parameters is responsive to a higher level layer in said OSI model communication system.

59. (Previously Presented) A memory as in claim 58, wherein

said first layer includes a physical layer; and

said higher level layer includes at least one of: a media access layer, a network layer, a transport layer, an application layer.